



State of Wisconsin
Department of Public Instruction
Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

*****NEWS RELEASE*****

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DPI 2008-22

Thursday, January 24, 2008

CONTACT: Patrick Gasper, Communications Officer, (608) 266-3559

**Statement by State Superintendent Burmaster
on virtual education bill compromise**

Burmaster thanks Senator John Lehman, Senator Luther Olsen, and Representative Brett Davis for their work

MADISON—State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster issued the following statement on the virtual education bill compromise.

“I am pleased that the Legislature has moved quickly to reach a compromise on a virtual education bill for Wisconsin. I have said repeatedly that virtual education is an innovative reality in the 21st century that is an effective educational strategy for some students in Wisconsin.

“As we all know, the Court of Appeals determined that our state statutes on teacher licensure, open enrollment, and charter schools did not fully envision the application of these laws to virtual education. For the first time, we have a bipartisan bill where the Legislature addresses policy issues in virtual education.

“I would like to thank all the members of the Assembly and Senate education committees, and in particular, Senators Lehman and Olsen, and Representative Davis for their work on this issue.”

###